CALENDAR

OF A

VOLUME CONTAINING NOTIFICATIONS

(1779 TO 1824)

ISSUED BY THE

DANISH ADMINISTRATION AT TRANQUEBAR

(DANISH RECORDS, SERIAL No. I.)

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PREFACE.

The Danes came to India in 1620 and settled down on the Coromandel Coast between Negapatam and Tranquebar (the town of the billows.) The Danish Admiral Ove Gjedde bought the then insignificant village and a small territory from the Raja of Tanjore to whom they belonged. The village soon became a small town with many inhabitants and the trade flourished. Although Tranquebar had no harbour it was at that time a much-frequented shipping place as the roadsteads were safer and the surf less violent than at Madras. Admiral Gjedde built the fort "Dansborg" and surrounded the town with walls to protect the inhabitants.

At the time of the wars at the beginning of the 19th century Denmark was acknowledged as a neutral state by the powers at war and many of the Danish inhabitants at Tranquebar acquired considerable fortunes by lending their names to protect the property of Englishmen. But unfortunately Denmark did not keep neutral and as a result of this Tranquebar as well as the other Danish Colony Serampore in Bengal were taken possession of by England in 1808.

The colony remained in the hands of the English up to 1815 when it was handed over to Denmark again.

Denmark treated her Indian subjects with much consideration. The colony was ruled by a paternal Government who regulated by laws almost everything concerning the inhabitants' life and conduct. It intervened in caste disputes, and regulated and settled a sale-price of articles of food and clothing. The sale of tobacco, liquor and salt were a Royal monopoly. The slaves were treated fairly well and were not allowed to be put into irons. While the Government tried to be impartial to all religions, the Christians had some privileges, and in 1823 we even see the Government taking under its special protection the Evangelical Velagamutters who were told to regard the Government as their father who would protect them and to whom they should behave as a child to its father.

The colony however never recovered after the war and the formerly flourishing trade went down to almost nothing. From English territory rice and hides were now and then brought to Tranquebar to be exported to Isle de France, but much rice had to be imported to the colony as its own rice produce was far from being sufficient to its many inhabitants. The revenues had diminished considerably and were not even sufficient to pay half of the expenses. The yearly income did not exceed 30,000 rupees, including the compensation paid by the English Government for the salt monopoly which they had held since the war. Moreover the Danish Government had to pay a yearly tribute of 2,000 pagodas to the Raja of Tanjore.

It is therefore not to be wondered at, if Denmark began to consider the question of disposing of the colony—a thought that however was not regarded with favour by the Danish people who thought it beneath the dignity of Denmark that she should

sell her possession beyond the sea. Some efforts were made to keep the colony, but they led to nothing and in 1845 Tranquebar as well as Serampore were sold to England.

Thus closed the history of the small Danish Colony, and only the fort "Dansborg" and the old Danish houses, many of which are rapidly falling into ruins, remain to remind the present generation of Denmark's rule of more than 200 years in Tranquebar.

JOH. BITTMANN.

CALENDAR OF DANISH RECORDS.

15th February 1779 .. Government Order warning civilians against buying anything from uncovenanted officers or privates of the army without their producing a written declaration from their officers allowing them to dispose of their things, or to lend or sell anything on credit to them without their officers' permission and knowledge.

17th January „ .. Government Order that all memorials should be addressed to His Majesty the King and forwarded through 'The High Royal General Land Economy and Commerce Collegium ".

11th August „ .. *Customs Regulations in villages in Danish territory.*—Customs shall be paid at the custom offices in Porrear, Tillaly and Erichulanchery on all goods imported to the villages from foreign places and kept for use and consumption. Duty shall also be paid on all goods and articles manufactured on the spot whether they are exported or kept in the village.

The duty is to be paid by the exporters and importers, while the duty on goods manufactured and used on the spot shall be paid by those who buy or order them.

On one bag rice should be paid in duty	.. ..	8 cash
„ 1,000 areca-nuts	do.	3 „
„ tamarind per fanam	do.	5 „
„ gallnuts	do.	2 „
„ linen, silk	do.	1 „
„ spices, etc.	do.	1 „
„ sugar	do.	1 „
„ one bag paddy	do.	10 „
„ one "tuck" tobacco	do.	9 „
„ oil per fanam	do.	2 „
„ betel leaves	do.	10 „
„ one "bag" gingelly seed (The duty to be paid when the seed is brought to the oil-mill.)	.. ..	1 fanam 40 „
„ one bullock the duty is ..	.. .. ..	1 „
„ Horses	..	4, 3 or 2 Danish Rix-dollars.

A yearly tax of 9 fanams is levied on all oil-mills. All bazaars (except in Tillaly where trade is free) shall pay the following tax :—

A large bazaar daily	4 cash
A small „ „	2 „

All goods imported by sea and for which duty has been paid at the Sea Custom office and permit obtained are duty free when imported into the villages. All goods belonging to the king or the Danish Asiatic Company are duty free if correctly entered at the Custom office. The weavers need pay no duty on cloth manufactured by themselves for their own or their family's use. The cloth however should be stamped by the Custom officer before it is washed. All Indian goods could be warehoused duty free (provided a written declaration of their value is given to the Custom officer) for one year and six weeks, after which period they should either be exported or duty paid on them. Danish subjects may export goods duty free to foreign places on the coast in order to try to sell them, provided the value and a six months' declaration is given to the custom officer. After six months the goods should be either exported again or duty paid on them.

In all cases of defraudation of the customs the offenders shall be punished by fine and the goods confiscated, one half part of which to be given to the custom officer, the other half to the informer.

Custom officers shall not collect the so-called "magamy" (மகமை), the duty which the heathens pay to the temples on all exported and imported goods. The temple servants should do this themselves.

The weavers shall inform the custom office when they bring their goods to the bazaars or to the merchants. The duty is then to be paid by the merchants when the goods are sold or exported. When duty is paid on linen it shall be stamped on both ends with the custom office seal. No washerman shall dare under pain of corporal punishment to wash unstamped new linen or chintz.

Complaints regarding the customs are to be referred to the Finance Alderman *pro tempore* who may refer the matter to the Government or institute regular legal proceedings. If the money involved in the case exceeds two hundred rupees the case could be brought before the High Court.

11th August 1779 .. *Customs Regulations within Tranquebar Land port.*—With a few differences almost the same as the preceding Regulation. The duty is here calculated "per cent." and the scale contains both the export and import duty :—

	Import. Per cent.	Export. Per cent.
On paddy and rice the duty is	3	1½
„ gingelly, tobacco, betel, tamarind, linen, silk, spices, printed calico.	5	2½
„ all European goods	2	none

11th „ „ .. *Tobacco Trade Regulations outside the town of Tranquebar.*—The tobacco trade is a Royal Monopoly and can be carried on only by those licensed by the Government. The licensee should always keep good tobacco and sell to all who wish to buy.

The tobacco should be sold at the following rates: Quid of tobacco, best quality, 1 tuck 4½ fanams; Jafnapatnam tobacco, best quality, 4 fanams for 1 tuck; tobacco second quality for cheroots, 1 tuck 3½ fanams; 105 cheroots should cost 1 fanam. One cheroot shall weigh one pagoda's weight. One cash worth of tobacco shall weigh ¾ pagoda's weight.

The cultivator shall sell all his tobacco to the licensed trader, but he may keep one tuck for his own use for each "pair of oxen plough-land" he cultivates for tobacco. If the grower hides tobacco he is punished either with fine or corporal punishment and the tobacco given to the licensee.

On tobacco imported from foreign places a tax of 2½ fanams per tuck shall be paid to the licensee. If anyone is found to have more than one cheroot of foreign tobacco which has not been entered at the custom office he will be punished with fine or corporal punishment and the tobacco confiscated.

If the licensee keeps tobacco unfit for consumption it shall be confiscated and thrown into the sea and a fine imposed on him. If he keeps foreign tobacco inferior in quality to that prescribed he is liable to heavy punishment. Legal proceedings to be conducted according to the rules in the preceding regulations.

11th „ „ .. *Tobacco Trade Regulations within the town of Tranquebar.*—With a few exceptions almost the same as the preceding regulation. A tax of 1 cash shall besides the regular duty be paid to the licensee on each caveli of betel-leaves (a caveli shall contain 50 leaves). Any one who has more than three leaves of betel which has not been reported should be punished with fine or corporal punishment and the leaves confiscated. Besides the regular duty a tax of 5 per cent. should be paid the licensee on all tamarind and curka imported into the town. The privilege of collecting a tax of 2 cash from each bazaar in the town also belongs to the licensee.

11th „ „ .. *Regulation regarding the monopoly of money-changing in Tranquebar town and territory.*—The money-changing business is a Royal monopoly. Only those licensed by Government are allowed to carry it on.

The exchanger shall give 80 cash in exchange for one fanam while he is allowed to take 84 cash for a fanam. When the bazaarmen and other inhabitants who offer their goods for sale in the streets or in the homes have 20 cash in hand, the exchanger may at once take the profit according to the prescribed rate, but shall give the business man concerned the fanam as soon as the remaining cash are paid. Importers of provisions from foreign places should pay the following tax to the exchanger on the cash they have in hand: 20 cash and thereover 1 cash; 40 cash and thereover 2 cash; 60 cash

and thereover 3 cash. The remainder is tax-free. Those who use cash for payment either in bazaars or to coolies shall only use cash obtained from the exchanger. All who are employed in collecting the income from the Royal privileges shall daily exchange the collected cash with silver at the exchanger, who always shall have sufficient cash in hand to meet the demand. If the exchanger is satisfied that there is want of cash he shall at once report it that new ones may be coined. If anyone carries on exchange business without license he shall be punished with either fine or corporal punishment.

11th August 1779 .. *Regulation regarding grain measuring outside the town of Tranquebar.*—Grain measuring outside the town is a Royal privilege and to be carried on only by those licensed by Government to do so. Grains such as paddy, gingelly, cholam, cumbu, etc., shall be measured and measuring-tax paid on them both when imported and when sold. The measuring-tax on paddy when imported is for one "Boye" $\frac{3}{4}$ medid and for one bag $\frac{1}{4}$ medid. Again when the imported grain is sold the buyer shall pay a measuring tax of $\frac{1}{8}$ medid on each fanam; but if the importer keeps it for his own consumption without measuring it, no more measuring-tax is to be paid Weavers and washermen pay a measuring-tax of one madade on each collee. On grain brought to the town for export no measuring-tax is paid outside the town. On (1) grain carried through Danish territory from one foreign place to another, (2) grain for sowing (except it is sold in which case the measuring-tax should be paid by the buyer), (3) grain given as wages to ploughing-coolies and other servants and (4) on grain sold in small quantities no measuring-tax is to be levied. Infringements of the regulations are to be punished with fine or corporal punishment.

The licensees shall under no circumstances collect more measuring-tax than he is allowed according to the Regulations, neither shall he collect the measuring-tax given generally to temples and Naikan Talaiars. If the servants employed by the licensees cheat in any way they should be punished with severe corporal punishment. Marcallies and Medies shall be examined and stamped once a year and no unstamped measure shall be used.

11th „ „ .. *Regulation regarding grain measuring inside the town of Tranquebar.*—With a few exceptions the same as the preceding regulation. Grain bought on the king's or the Asiatic Company's account is tax-free. On grain imported by sea measuring-tax is to be paid both at the time of import and also again when it is sold; but if it is exported again only the import measuring-tax is paid. Those who pound paddy pay a measuring-tax of 1 medid on each collee, but if pounded on the King's or the Asiatic Company's account only half measuring-tax is paid.

13th March 1780 .. *Government Order regarding rates for hire of boats.*—As it has been complained that the boatmen are not able to earn their livelihood because the rates paid them for hire of their boats are too low the Governor has resolved that in future the following rate should be paid: (1) for a "selling" 10 fanams, (2) for a big catamaram 5 fanams and for a small catamaram as usual. These rates only apply to boats going to ships lying in the roadstead; to any other place special arrangements must be made with the boatmen

13th „ „ .. Government Order enforcing Government Order of 15th February 1779 regarding warning to civilians not to buy anything from uncovenanted officers or privates of the army.

26th May 1781 .. Government Order regarding prohibition of export of grain or any other kind of food. It is resolved that under no circumstance shall grain or other kind of goods be exported to foreign places. Infringement of this order is punishable with either fine or corporal punishment.

17th December „ .. *Government Order regarding house-rent and notice to be given by house-owners.*—As Government has learnt that on account of the war troubles so many foreigners come to the town and the house-rent is being thereby enhanced and that the inhabitants find it difficult to get European houses, it has been resolved that the house-owners shall give six full months' notice and within that time the rent should not be raised.

2nd August 1782	..	*Government Order regarding changes in the customs and measuring regulations.*—On account of high prices for grain the customs and measuring duties are reduced a little.
20th June 1783	..	*Government Order forbidding export of slaves from the territory.*—As so many foreigners buy up slaves and export them it is resolved that no slaves shall be exported from the colony.
29th July 1784	..	*Government Order regarding the liquor trade.*—License has been given to Mr. Jens Christensen Due to sell in the Danish territory the following liquors: (1) native rice-wine, (2) acid vinegar, (3) all kinds of liquor from Europe, Cape of Good Hope, etc., (4) all kinds of arracks from Colombo, Goa or other places. Nobody else is allowed to sell liquor without permission of the licensee with exception of European liquor of which 20 bottles may be sold retail without permission.
16th January 1785	..	Government Order that the ship captains should have their cargo for export cleared at the custom office 24 hours before their ships sail.
1st December „	..	Government Order advising all house and land-owners to have their documents registered at the town court office. The registering fee is for Europeans. 1 Rix-dollar, for "the black" 8 *fanams*, and for translation, 4 *fanams* for each document The advantages of registration are: (1) a registering document has always the right as first mortgage in preference to any unregistered document, (2) those who wish to lend money on houses or land can always get information regarding these at the registering office.
1st July 1786	..	*Government Order regarding registration of documents at the "Black Court."* As only a few natives as yet have registered their documents according to Government Order of 1st December 1785, it has been resolved that they shall be permitted to register them at the Indian venue which is the "Black Court" in Tranquebar. Malabar documents so registered are as safely registered as those registered at the Town Court office. If any of the Court officers in any way falsify the documents they are to be punished according to Danish law as forgers on "hand, honour and goods."
December „	..	*Government Order prohibiting encroachments on public streets, roads and footpaths.*—In the town the Engineer and in the villages the Manyakars should see that this order is observed.
16th July 1787	..	*Government Order regarding wages for artisans and labourers.*—As these continue to demand the same high wages as in war and famine it has been resolved that they now, when the prices on grain and victuals are again normal, shall receive wages only according to rates laid down by Government. The daily wages of an artisan shall be 2 *fanams*, for coolies $\frac{3}{4}$ fanams and for women $\frac{1}{2}$ fanam. The rate for sewing a dress coat shall be 21 fanams and for a lady's silk dress 11 fanams. If any artisan or labourer demands higher wages he shall be punished the first time with 20 stripes, the second time with 40 stripes, the third time with 60 stripes and so on. If any one pays higher wages than prescribed he is punished with fine. The prices for vegetables are to be fixed weekly by the Comptroller of victualling.
30th „ „	..	Government Order that nothing should be sold on credit to the sailors.
2nd February 1788	..	*Government Order regarding prohibition of right-hand caste ceremonies.*—As the left-hand caste in spite of the pardon given them on November 12th have not as yet turned up for work, and as the right-hand caste is the cause of this it is resolved that the right-hand caste shall not be allowed to perform any public ceremonies outside their houses until they be reconciled to the left-hand caste with regard to the ceremonies generally performed by the last-mentioned caste.
21st May „	..	*Government Order regarding unruly assemblies of Indians.*—As it has been found that so many Indians when wishing to petition the Government gather together in large unruly crowds, it has been resolved that no such public gathering shall be allowed except when religious ceremonies are performed with the Government permission. In caste disputes only the headmen of the castes shall present themselves before Government. Anyone who causes a public meeting to be held or takes the lead in it shall be punished as a rebel. Those who present untrue complaints to Government will be heavily punished.

19th June	1788 ..	*Government Order regarding rebellion and conspiracy.*—There is a public rumour that a rebellion is ripe among some evil-minded Indians. All who conspire with them will be heavily punished as rebels, while all who keep quiet may be sure of the Government protection against all evil-doers and assaults of the rebels.
23rd ,,	,, ..	Government Order that the Government has taken over the Royal paddy monopoly.
26th ,,	,, ..	*Government Order regarding ceremonies of right and left hand castes.*—As the two castes have not as yet been reconciled none of them shall—as is the case in Pondicherry—be allowed to perform public ceremonies outside their houses and temples until they are reconciled. The Chief-Maniakaran and the Chief Interpreter shall be exempted from this prohibition.
31st ,,	,, ..	*Government Order prohibiting all from damming up or obstructing the water in the irrigation canals.*—Only the Maniakarars are allowed to do it. Those who infringe this order will be punished with twenty stripes.
21st August, 8th September and 9th October.	,, ..	Government Orders prohibiting the export of empty bottles, pounded rice and paddy.
27th October	,, ..	Government Order that vegetables shall be sold at the same prices as before the war.
8th December	,, ..	*Government Order abolishing the customs and measuring duties on paddy and rice.*—The licensees who might suffer by this order are to present their grievances to Government.
1st ,,	,, ..	*Government Order regarding lotteries.*—In order to prevent private lotteries as much as possible a tax of 20 per cent. shall be paid on all private lotteries to the poor-fund in Tranquebar. No foreign lottery is allowed within the territory.
6th January	1789 ..	Government Order annulling order of 8th December 1788 regarding abolishing the customs and measuring duties on rice and paddy.
10th ,,	,, ..	Government Order that Europeans who have bonds in hand against Indians shall in case of law suits bring them before the Black Court and not before the Town Court, so that the Indians can be spared unnecessary expenses.
5th February	,, ..	Government Order abolishing the prohibition of export of paddy and rice.
12th March	,, ..	*Government Order regarding export of paddy.*—The prices of paddy are very high and are likely to rise higher yet. Therefore all export of paddy by sea is prohibited. Paddy already sold but not exported is allowed to be exported. After the 27th instant no export is permitted under pain of confiscation.
19th ,,	,, ..	Government Order permitting the right and left hand castes again to perform their public ceremonies as they have been reconciled to each other.
30th April	,, ..	*Government Order regarding recovery of debt.*—As it has been found that many take the law in their own hands in recovering outstanding debts by closing the debtors' houses or shops or even trying by force to get the money all are warned against receiving their money in any other way than is permitted by law.
20th July and 29th July.	,, ..	Government Orders announcing that a new Superintendent of customs, taxes and private trades has been appointed and that the licensed trades have been rented out for the next two years. Warning all against infringing the rules.
30th July	,, ..	*Government Order regarding new Custom stamp on linen goods.*—All linen goods shall in future be stamped with a new stamp besides the usual stamp, on both ends stating the date of entry at the customs. It is forbidden to washermen to wash, tailors to sew, and anyone to buy linen goods not stamped with this new stamp.
31st ,,	,, ..	Government Order that on paddy from the King's farm, hitherto exempted from any duty, customs as well as measuring duties shall in future be paid by the buyer. This paddy should be sold only in the town.

1st August 1789 ..	Government Order that all luggage for export shall as far as possible be packed in the presence of a Custom officer and stamped with the King's stamp. Unstamped luggage will be opened at the custom office. Boatmen are forbidden to take unstamped articles into their boats.
2nd ,, ,, ..	Government Order that all palanquins and bandies shall (on account of the prevailing smuggling) be strictly examined when passing the custom places.
10th ,, ,, ..	Government Order announcing that the new stamp for linen goods is ready and that all should bring their goods to be stamped or send for the Customs officer to do so.
1st October ,, ..	*Government Order regarding Royal land on which permission has been given to build houses.*—It has been found that some of those who have been permitted to build houses on Royal land, have sold the land although they held it only on condition that it should be given back to the Crown as soon as they left it. It has been resolved that all who hold land on these conditions shall bring the documents concerning it to the Secretary to Government who will register and sign them in order to prevent any mistake or future dispute. It shall be done within a month. In the document shall be clearly stated that the holder of the land can under no circumstance dispose of it.
8th ,, ,, ..	*Government Order regarding the "Pambakam taxes" paid to the temples.*—As hitherto nothing has been legally settled with regard to the 5 per cent. tax (called Pambakam) of the whole rice harvest which the Indians generally pay to the heathen temples much unrest and many disputes have arisen regarding this question. It has been resolved that in future all Indians who own paddy land shall pay this tax to the temple under which their land lies according to the matricular protocol. This tax shall be paid before the paddy is sold, and the buyers are warned to have the temple Superintendent's receipt before they buy, else they will be liable to pay the tax if disputes arise. The tax shall be paid by Hindus to the temples, by Muhammadans to the mosques, and by Christians to the churches in order that all religions may have equal rights. This shall take effect at once even if the land may have been bought from Hindus and the tax properly speaking should be paid to the temples. But in future when land is sold by Hindus to Christians or Muhammadans it should be on the condition that the purchaser shall pay the Pambakam to the temples. A document securing this shall be signed by the purchaser and given to the temple Superintendent. Land sold by auction shall be sold on the same conditions. In future no one can acquire by purchase other rights over the land than those the former owner held.
8th April 1790 ..	Government Order that census shall be taken and that all should give the census officers the required information.
12th ,, ,, ..	Government Order prohibiting export of cocoanuts and cocoanut oil.
29th July ,, ..	Government Order that in suits before the Malabar court no bonds or documents more than fifteen years and no bills more than ten years old shall be reckoned valid. This order takes effect six months after its publication.
10th September ,, ..	Government Order that the tobacco license is to be sold by public auction.
14th ,, ,, ..	*Government Order regarding the neutrality of the Danish Colony.*—As Denmark's neutrality is recognised by the powers at war it is forbidden to export ammunition or any kind of arms without the Government's permission. Sale of gunpowder is not permitted within the territory.
1st November ,, ..	Government Order that all stray cattle will be impounded.
16th December ,, ..	*Government Order prohibiting slave owners to put their slaves in irons.*—The Government will punish unruly slaves according to law.
25th January 1791 ..	*Government Order inviting lascars to serve under the company.*—The conditions are: 15 fanams a month in salary, the usual quantity of rice and no work on Sundays.

13th May 1791 ..	Government Order that all Maradors shall send in their old deeds of sale and bonds to the Agriculture Commissioner to get them executed according to the new regulations.
13th July ,, ..	Government Order forbidding Indians to play music or make any noise in other streets than their own on Sundays and the Lutheran festival days.
25th August ,, ..	Government Order that a tax of 15 cash shall be paid on each bag of paddy and rice passing through Danish territory from one foreign place to another.
22nd September ,, ..	Government Order prohibiting export of rice and paddy on account of the prevailing scarcity.
2nd January 1792 ..	Government Order abolishing the last order of 22nd September 1791.
26th April ,, ..	Government Order forbidding sale of intoxicating liquors to European soldiers.
22nd May ,, ..	Government Order that Indians who deny their signature on documents shall if the genuineness of the signature be proved in the Court be banished from the Colony and their goods shall be confiscated.
18th June ,, ..	Government Order that the Maccua coolies shall under pain of corporal punishment give all chanks (shell) found by them to the licensee on the usual compensation. The chank license from 1st July 1722—1st July 1794 has been given to Sidambaram Pandaram from Negapatam.
4th August ,, ..	*Government Order prohibiting circulation of cash with foreign stamp.*—Government is willing to exchange foreign cash with Danish cash within two weeks from the publication of this order.
30th ,, ,, ..	Government Order that in future all Indians who commit robbery or theft shall be punished with arbitrary punishment, as the Danish Law concerning these offences is inadequate.
29th October ,, ..	Government Order that a case referred to the Black Court shall be dismissed if the vakil has not on the day the case comes before the Court filed the list of witnesses and proofs he wishes to produce. If a case has been dismissed twice it cannot again be brought before the Court.
15th April 1793 ..	*Government Order regarding regulation of prices for meat.*—Best quality of meat shall be sold for 1 fanam per lb.; second quality for $\frac{3}{4}$ fanam per lb.
25th June ,, ..	*Government Order regarding regulation of prices for bread and flour.*—For 1 fanam shall be given $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. bread (Danish weight). The price for flour shall be 2 fanams per medid and for Rolan 3 fanams per medid. Export of victuals is not permitted.
2nd September ,, ..	Government Order inviting all house-owners and all His Majesty's Military, Civil and Ecclesiastical officers to obtain certificates of Danish citizenship.
11th August 1794 ..	Government Order that as so many have not as yet got their documents registered they should under pain of 50 Rixdollars fine do so within three months.
11th September ,, ..	*Government Order regarding the Roman Catholics' obedience to the delegate from St. Thomé.*—The Roman Catholic Bishop of St. Thomé has asked the Government to help and support Padre Antonio de Experito Sante whom he has sent to Tranquebar to inquire into the unrest and disputes between the Roman Catholic Christians and their priest. All Roman Catholics should be willing to meet before the delegate and give him all information he asks for and show him the obedience and respect which his office entitles him to. The results of the investigation will be laid before the Government and no final decision taken without the Government's sanction.
20th August 1795 ..	Government Order that those who by carelessness circulate counterfeit coins shall be punished with fine.
18th May 1797 ..	Government Order that all captains of ships that call at Tranquebar shall as soon as they arrive inform the Port officer from where the ship has come, its destination and kind of cargo.

13th December 1798 .. *Government Order regarding prevention of soldiers' desertion.*—Some foreigners have tried to induce soldiers to desert on promise of higher pay. All who come to know about such plots are under pain of heavy corporal punishment warned to inform the authorities at once. Informers may expect reward from Government.

2nd „ „ .. *Government Order regarding changes in some preceding orders.*—Those who have not registered their documents shall be liable to a fine of 20 per cent. of the value of the document. Deeds of sale if executed by a European in favour of a European shall be recorded at the Town Court and if by an Indian in favour of a European or an Indian at the Black Court within three weeks from the date of execution; infringement to be punished with fine.

Wills shall within six months from testator's death be signed by twelve trustworthy and respected men of testator's caste stating that the property is legally bequeathed to the devisee. After the validity of the will has been recognised by the Black Court it shall be registered. It shall also be stated whether there are joint-heirs and if so whether they are of age or not. An Indian shall be reckoned to be of age when seventeen years old. Complaints regarding wills must be instituted within one year after testator's death, complaints regarding sale-deeds within six months after execution. *Pro forma* documents which shall be reckoned invalid are: (1) documents the execution of which debtor denies and the validity of which cannot be proved by creditor and (2) documents executed in the name of some one else than the real creditors. Indians who deny their signature and are found by the Court to have written it shall be punished with 240 stripes, ten every half hour; and their property confiscated for the benefit of the Christian Church. Those who falsify documents, those who buy or present false witnesses before the Court, and false witnesses are liable to the same punishment.

12th May 1800 .. Government Order that the 6 per cent. Royal stamp duty on documents is abolished. In future the Manyakar together with two other men may witness deeds of sale of houses and lands outside the town provided the value does not exceed 20 Porto Novo Pagodas. The fees are: 2 fanams to the Manyakar and 1 fanam to the chief Manyakar in Tillaly.

15th July „ .. Government Order that because of some unrest in the town public meetings of Indians are prohibited. Indians found with sticks, bludgeons or any other weapons are liable to capital punishment.

25th September „ .. *Government Order regarding passports for ships.*—Danish citizens who wish to procure a passport for a ship shall together with the petition forward a security of 3,000 Rixdollars if the ship is under 300 tons and of 5,000 Rixdollars if over 300 tons. The security shall be forfeited if the passport is misused.

17th July „ .. Government Order prohibiting right and left hand castes from performing any public ceremonies on account of the disagreement between them concerning the ceremonies the left-hand caste should be permitted to perform.

29th November 1802 .. Government Order that on account of the general confusion prevailing while the English had possession of the colony and especially as the Black Court has for some time been suspended it is resolved that the order of 2nd December 1799 regarding registration of documents shall be strictly enforced.

10th January 1805 .. Government Order that Government loans on land shall be considered as a first mortgage even if other loans have been raised on the land.

8th „ 1806 .. Government Order that the King has abolished the usual 6 per cent. tax on deeds of sale.

9th „ 1808 .. Government Order that on account of the many frivolous complaints and petitions brought before Government, in future no complaint or petition shall be laid before Government without the Mayor's permission.

20th September 1815 .. Royal proclamation that as peace has been restored between the King and the British Government the King again takes possession of the colony. Rear-Admiral Gerhard Severs Bille, *Kt.*, has been sent to take over the colony. All officers are to continue in the offices they had on 12th February 1808, the date of the capitulation. Those who have sworn obedience to the English Crown are to be sworn in again as Danish subjects.

5th January 1816 .. *Government Order regarding the question of continuing the Black Court.*—The headmen of all the castes have been asked whether they would prefer that their cases should in future be tried before the Town Court so that the Black Court could be abolished. As the answers are not at all unanimous in preferring this change the Black Court is to continue as usual.

12th August ,, .. Government Order that petitions and memorials to Government shall be written in a befitting style and all are warned against sending in frivolous and untrue complaints.

26th September ,, .. Government Order that all wells in the territory shall be enclosed by a wall 2½ feet high.

16th May 1817 .. *Government Order regarding marriage ceremonies of Christians belonging to the Mission congregation.*—It has been found that Christians belonging to the Mission congregation perform heathen ceremonies and use heathen music at their weddings. Christians are therefore forbidden under pain of punishment to perform these ceremonies or to employ heathen music at their so-called entrance into the town after the wedding. Neither is the procession permitted to pass the streets in which the churches are situated.

28th August ,, .. *Government Order regarding new Police regulations in the villages.*—In future the village police force shall consist of one Police Inspector with three Sergeants (Ristedahs) and fourteen constables under him. There shall be a small house for the police in each village. The police shall be armed with a lance. They shall be responsible for good order in the village.—Further regulations as to the behaviour of the police.

3rd July ,, .. *Government Order regarding repair of roads.*—The roads were in very bad repair at the time the Government took over the Colony from the English. All bullock-owners have to help in the repair by sending a man and a bandy once a week for each bullock they own.

25th September ,, .. Government order that all fines paid at Tranquebar Police and Magistrate Courts are to be utilised for repair of the roads in the territory.

27th April 1816 .. Government order regarding court-fees and fines.

19th October 1818 .. *Government order regarding presentation of memorials to Government or filing of civil cases.*—In order to put a stop to the hedge-lawyer's harmful influence on the uneducated part of the population whereby these often are induced to file unnecessary and unjust court cases which end in utter ruin to themselves and are a great annoyance and loss to those who unjustly are accused the following order is published :—

(1) Every document whether it is a memorial to Government or a case filed in court by natives is to be signed by those who send it, so that they can be held responsible for its contents.

(2) It shall be stated in the document whether they themselves or others have composed it.

(3) If these rules are not complied with no notice will be taken of the document.

(4) If any document is presented in court without these signatures and information the petitioner or plaintiff has to give the necessary information in court and pay a fine of 2 Rixdollars to Zion Church Poor fund.

(5) If anyone falsifies the signature or gives wrong information as to the composer of the document he shall be heavily punished. If a European he shall be punished the first time with rigorous imprisonment and the second time be expelled from the colony; if he is a public servant he will also be dismissed from service. If a native he will be punished the first time with 25 stripes on three days, the second time with 50 stripes and be expelled from the colony.

10th September 1818 .. *Government order regarding tax for Palanquin-bearers, bullocks and bullock-carts.*

5th January 1816 .. *Royal Ordnance.*—In order that full justice might be done to all it was decided by Government order of 19th August 1789 that all natives should be tried and judged according to the rules and customs which hitherto have been regarded as law among them, and as it was thought that native judges would know these regulations and

customs better than Europeans, the Black Court with natives as judges was instituted. It has however come to the notice of the Government that in the working of this court many irregularities and abuses have crept in. Moreover the Government has reason to believe that the natives themselves after the experience they have had prefer to have their cases brought before the Town Court.

Government has therefore resolved—

(1) That the Town Magistrate shall deal with all cases hitherto brought before the Black Court.

(2) That he in his dealing with these cases shall have all possible regard to the native customs and regulations which as hitherto shall have legal authority.

(3) Six assessors consisting of two Hindus, two Muhammadans and two Native Christians belonging to the Mission congregration together with the Interpreter shall be present in Court and watch such cases.

(4) The Magistrate shall in all cases touching native customs and regulations consult these assessors, who if they think fit are allowed to express their opinions which should be recorded.

(5) The headmen of the communities are allowed to propose for nomination four men of each of the above-mentioned castes, from whom the Government then will elect the assessors.

(6) These assessors shall be regarded as the first of the natives and the same respect be paid to them as was formerly shown to the assessors of the Black Court.

(7) The Magistrate and the assessors shall always try to settle cases and disputes by compromise if possible.

(8) The Magistrate shall forward monthly to Government a detailed report of these cases.

12th August 1819 .. *Government Order regarding exchange table.*—The following exchange scale shall be in force until further order—

Bought.				Sold.			
	Rup.	Ann.	Cash.		Rup.	Ann.	Cash.
120$\frac{1}{4}$ Porto Novo pagodas ..							
121$\frac{3}{4}$ Escoot pagodas	349	..	..	....	350	..	..
100 Star pagodas							
1 gold rupee	14	15	14	....	15	..	..
1 Madras rupee	..	15	42	....	..	16	..
1 Pondicherry rupee ..	..	15	12	....	..	15	16
1 Surat rupee	..	14	10	....	..	14	14
1 Piaster	..	33	..	....	..	33	4
1 new double Madras fanam.	..	2	22	....	..	2	24
1 old double Madras fanam.	..	2	18	....	..	2	20
1 Pondicherry fanam ..	..	1	38	....	..	1	40

1st May 1817 .. *Government order regarding support of imprisoned debtors.*—For a European daily 1$\frac{3}{4}$ fanam, for a Portuguese 1$\frac{1}{4}$ fanam and for a native $\frac{3}{4}$ fanam.

4th July 1822 .. Government order that all lepers found walking about in the street shall be expelled from the town by the Police.

15th June ,, .. Government order that as the Roman Catholic Bishop of St. Thomé has complained that some Roman Catholics in the colony do not show the obedience and respect to the Roman Catholic Priest due to him, all Roman Catholics shall be warned under pain of punishment against such disobedience.

3rd April ,, .. *Government order regarding the position of the Evangelical Christian Velangamuttars.*—The Evangelical Christian Velangamuttars have sent in a petition to Government asking to be taken under the protection of Government so as to be able to live peacefully in the territory. The Government has decided as follows :—

I

Government takes the Evangelical Velangamuttars under its special protection and as they hitherto have been called the children of the right-hand caste; so in future they shall be called the children of Government. The Government expects them to show the same obedience as children do to their father.

II

Government consents to their separating themselves from all other castes. A special Talaray shall be appointed for them; he shall always be Serastadar in the Royal Cutcherry.

III

It shall be the duty of this Talaray to protect and defend all the privileges of the Evangelical Velangamuttars. He shall hear and receive all complaints and in all matters plead their cause before the Government and the court and before all other authorities.

IV

The Talaray shall help the Velangamuttars to get their proper pay from their employers, the heathen Mohradars.

V

In order to encourage the Talaray to do his duty with diligence and perseverance a small monthly salary shall be given him, the amount to be fixed by Government.

VI

The Governor promises to protect the Evangelical Velangamuttars in their exercise of the privileges which they have possessed from olden days. The Government also allows them all the demonstrations of honour that belong to them and to perform all the ceremonies which are consistent with the faith they profess.

VII

The Government in consultation with the pastor further appoints six elders from the best and most trustworthy Velangamuttars.

VIII

In order that they may do their duty diligently a small salary will be given them.

IX

Their most important duties are—

(*a*) To carry out the orders of the Government and the Law Courts.

(*b*) To see that good order and peace prevail among the Velangamuttars and that all Government orders and regulations are obeyed especially the orders regarding the police regulations.

(*c*) If any of the Evangelical Velangamuttars live in open immorality the elders shall call him and warn him. If this warning is disregarded the matter shall be reported to the court so that the guilty may be punished.

(*d*) They shall try to settle all quarrels between man and wife and between parents and children. No case of this nature shall be brought to court before the elders have tried to compromise.

(*e*) In cases of disagreement between the Velangamuttars as to whether their ceremonies are consistent with the Christian religion the elders shall settle the dispute and their decision shall be final.

(*f*) In all law suits concerning inheritance and caste disputes between the Velangamuttars they shall furnish the court with all possible information, and in settling the case the court shall pay due regard to these informations.

(*g*) If any of the Velangamuttars are caught in serious offences or crimes they have the power to arrest these.

(*h*) They shall keep an exact census of their people.

(*i*) If they have cause to believe that disorders are being plotted they shall try to prevent them and if necessary report to Government.

(*k*) As it is the duty of the elders to show meekness and kindness in the exercise of their office so the people shall also submit to the orders and decisions of their elders.

X

These elders shall as a mark of distinction carry a stick with a silver button on which the King's monogram shall be engraved. They shall be regarded as the first in rank of the Velangamuttars next after the Talaray.

XI

The elders as well as the Talaray shall have a written commission with the Government seal attached given to them. This commission shall be read from the pulpits of Bethlem and New-Jerusalem churches.

XII

The Government is willing to give the same concession to the Roman Catholic and the heathen Velangamuttars if they apply for them.

29th April 1823 ..	*Government order regarding deeds of conveyance and land certificates.*—Some land-owners in the colony are not able to produce proofs of their right of possession so as to get their title-deeds registered according to Government order of 24th March 1806. The Government has therefore decided that after three months after the publication of this order no purchase or sale of real property shall be reckoned valid if the purchase or sale has not been founded on properly registered title-deeds.
15th July 1824 ..	*Government order regarding salt manufacture.*—It is forbidden to manufacture salt in the colony.

Brief Abstracts of routine orders.

17th February 1785 ..	Government Order that a customs Officer shall, in order to prevent defraudation of the customs, be present when goods for export are packed.
17th „ „ ..	Government Order that domestic servants shall give the prescribed notice before they leave.
2nd April „ ..	Government Order regarding illegal shooting within the town.
2nd May „ ..	Government Order sharpening the punishment for illegal sale of liquor.
7th July „ ..	Government Order regulating customs on grain.
17th February 1789 ..	Government Order announcing that all fishermen and coolies range under the master of ordnance.
11th October 1792 ..	Forbidding export of cocoanuts.
17th „ „ ..	Abolishing the measuring tax on grain on account of famine.
13th November „ ..	Reinstating the measuring tax on grain.
21st June 1793 ..	Regulating the work and behaviour of harvesters.
8th July „ ..	Government Order that the Government has taken over the Royal paddy monopoly in the so-called old and new villages.
5th August „ ..	Government Order that landlords shall give their tenants at least three months' notice.
21st October „ ..	Royal approbation of the Customs regulations in Tranquebar town.
27th July 1796 ..	Government Order settling the price of tobacco.
16th March 1797 ..	Government Order regarding repair of roads.
20th April „ ..	Government Order regarding hiring of boats.
20th „ „ ..	Government Order regulating the work of harbour coolies.
13th December 1798 ..	Government Order regulating the keeping of hotels.
10th „ „ ..	Government Order prohibiting burning of straw and rubbish in the streets.
16th July 1800 ..	Reiteration of Government Order, 13th December 1798.
27th August „ ..	Government Order warning artisans against breaking agreements made with their customers.
11th December „ ..	Government Order forbidding Indians to commit nuisance in the streets or on the seashore.
23rd February 1804 .. 28th November 1815 .. 25th January 1817 ..	Government Order reiterating Government Order that list of witnesses shall be filed before a case is heard.
28th June 1804 ..	Government Order that all public documents shall be registered.
24th March 1806 ..	Government Order notifying that only title-deeds which are registered are valid.
21st April „ ..	Government Order prohibiting bullock-carts from being driven on a certain road.

29th May	1806 ..	Government Order that before a case is heard before the High Court the parties concerned shall give sufficient security that they are able to pay the costs.
27th April	1817 ..	Government Order ordering all wells to be enclosed.
25th September	,, ..	Government Order ordering the destruction of stray dogs.
25th ,,	,, ..	Government Order that all fines shall be utilized for the repair of roads.
16th November 1815 .. } 26th August 1816 .. }		Government Order forbidding the inhabitants to throw rubbish into the streets.
19th February	1818 ..	Government Order regarding registration of documents.
28th ,,	,, ..	Government Order regarding the cess-pools.
10th September	,, .	Government Order regulating the hire of bullock-carts and palanquins.
30th April	1817 ..	Government Order regarding cleaning of streets.
13th August	1819 ..	Government Order forbidding fireworks in the streets.
21st March	1818 ..	Government Order warning native sepoys against unruly behaviour.
26th October	1820 .	Government Order warning the licensees not to take higher prices for tobacco than laid down in the regulation.
25th May	1803 ..	Government Order regarding notice to be given by domestic servants to their masters.
7th ,,	1821 ..	Government Order ordering the house-owners to keep their houses in good repair.
17th July ,, .. } 25th ,, 1822 .. }		Government Order regarding the keeping of hotels.
12th December	,, ..	Government Order regulating the work of journeymen weavers.
17th January	1823 ..	Government Order regulating the bailiffs' works and power.